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CITY NEWS

Serving The Greater Metropolitan Newark Area Since 1983

March 22 - March 28, 1995

Volume 11, Number 25

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MISSING
SINCE
MARCH 14, 1995



VANESSA, AGE 14
If you have seen her or have information about where she is call New Brunswick Police 908-745-5200.

AT A GLANCE

Urban mayors push for empowerment

EAST ORANGE, NJ—East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper recently joined urban mayors from across the state to announce the "Empowerment Pact with the People," a group of initiatives developed by urban mayors and presented to Governor Whitman to address the growing concerns of mayors living in urban communities.

Cooper, a member of the Urban Mayors Association, was joined by other urban mayors including Trenton Mayor and chair of the Association, Doug Palmer. Other cities participating include Elizabeth, Irvington, Jersey City, Paterson, New Brunswick, Plainfield and Perth Amboy. The concerns of the Association centered around reducing urban spending, allocating new resources to cities, reforming state mandates, education.

See **URBAN MAYORS** page 6

MAP calls for monument to victims of slavery

NEWARK—At a press conference at Reuben's Restaurant and Supper Club in Newark, Memorial to the Ancestors Project, (MAP) Inc., called for a monument to be established in memory of the victims of slavery. "...We who are gathered here today believe it is time to memorialize in a special and permanent way the great tragedy of slavery."

"We take this opportunity...to publicly announce the beginning of our 1993 fundraising drive for our effort to establish a monument in honor of the millions of Africans who suffered and perished under the system of slavery in America and other parts of the Western hemisphere," said Lawrence Hamm, representative of Memorial to the Ancestors Project, Inc.

See **MONUMENTS** page 6

BLACK COPS STAND FIRM AGAINST DEATH THREATS

by Sandra Wright

NEWARK—There was tension in the air as members of the press, some curious passers-by and supporters of Black Cops Against Police Brutality (BCAP) gathered outside the Federal Building to hear the allegations of death threats and discrimination that BCAP members said they have been facing.

One member of BCAP (referred to only as brother Griffin) stated that members of the

organization are under attack and are being called racist by other police officers because of their association with the group.

"...We are not racist, we do not preach hate to anyone... Black cops are asked why we call ourselves Black Cops Against Police Brutality—because we are black. Get over it," said Griffin. He also made it clear that members of the organization would not define their actions by what others think. It's been reported that because of the assistance granted to the Paterson community and the family of shooting victim Lawrence Meyers, Officer De Lacy Davis and other members of BCAP are being harassed by police officials in several Essex county police departments.

Officer Davis said he has received three letters threatening his life. Two of the letters were said to be from police officers. All three letters were mailed to the East Orange police precinct where officer Davis is posted. The threats have come from both black and white officers.

With tears in his eyes, Davis said he will stand by what he believes even if it means being killed. "I am willing to die for what I believe in and that is the belief of the pursuit of freedom and liberty for all."

"How dare you condemn people for standing against what's wrong... How dare you tell me that there is no need for BCAP. How dare you be so vain."

Support for Davis came from several

See **BLACK COPS** page 6

Center fights back against GOP cuts



Youth center members and their parents joined Richard Taylor, CEO of Second Street Youth Center Foundation, Inc., as he receives a donation from the Jili Schimmel of the National Starch Chemical Foundation to assist in the building of SSVC's Family Life Center.

by Sherry Burrus

PLAINFIELD—"You can't have any ceilings when it comes to serving our children," said Richard Taylor, chief executive officer of Second Street Youth Center Foundation Inc. in response to the House's approval of a \$17.3 billion budget cut, which if approved by the Senate, would take food from the mouths of millions of children, diminish education and public housing programs and leave the elderly in the cold.

The future of the children,

poor, and elderly now lie in the hands of the Senate who will vote "nay" or "yea" to the GOP budget cut plan which was passed by the House, Thursday, March 16. If approved, though President Clinton has already expressed his disapproval, New Jersey would lose over \$554 million in federal aid.

Some of those cuts include: \$148 million in public housing programs, which would cut rental assistance vouchers and certificates, cut public housing modernization funds and cut operating subsidies for public housing projects;

\$50 million in summer jobs eliminating 15,000 jobs for youngsters; \$50 million in home heating assistance for the poor, elderly and disadvantaged, which would end home assistance programs nationwide and cut off aid to about 187,000 low-income households nationwide.

\$22 million in education programs, which would affect President Clinton's anti-drug effort in schools and his Goals 2000 program, a school improvement initiative.

In addition to those cuts, New Jersey public broadcasting would lose \$265,000, and community development grants to municipalities would be cut by \$8.3 million. The "savings" from the cuts are called for deficit reduction and \$5.4 billion to an emergency disaster relief, to aid victims of natural disasters.

Democrats are calling the cuts mean-spirited, irresponsible and an assault on children, the elderly and the poor. Rep. Robert Torricelli was quoted as saying "This legislation isn't about saving money. It's about dismantling programs that help the most vulnerable in our society."

The proposed plan also has local child care centers outraged; one center in Plainfield has vowed to fight back as their future is being threatened.

"We are not going to let anybody break our spirit, we are going to fight... Head Start is a highly regulated entity that provides medical,

See **SSVC FIGHTS** page 6



Cutting ribbon are Mayor William J. Pasarelli, Jr., Jerry Fuchs of Hunter Douglas Window Fashions and Cy Thankany of New Jersey Department of Commerce Black row: Reverend Alfred E. Steele, former Glanta players Ron Johnson and Harry Carson, Preston D. Pinkett III of Chemical Bank New Jersey and Ken Parker, Chairman of the Board, George Washington Carver Service, Inc.

Youth employment program begins in Paterson

PATERSON—Mayor William J. Pasarelli, Jr. officiated at a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony to launch the newly formed George Washington Carver Service, Inc., created to provide employment and growth opportunities for the youth of Paterson.

"We are thrilled that the vision for a public/private partnership to create jobs and hope for the youth of Paterson has come to fruition," said Mayor Pasarelli. "It's a positive message that shows our commitment to supporting the community with the tangible benefit of employment and solid experience in learning about what makes a business successful."

The new company is a joint venture with Minority Athletes Networking (MAN etc., Inc.), the Paterson Restoration Corporation,

Hunter Douglas Window Fashions and Chemical Bank New Jersey. This group will manufacture window treatments for municipalities while providing training and jobs for inner-city youth.

Production has already begun at the facility where fifteen employees are currently in the training program gaining on-the-job experience as they manufacture 100 blinds a day.

Orders from Hunter Douglas are being fulfilled for the time being, to be phased out as the new company's marketing program begins to generate its own orders. Another fifteen employees will be added in the near future, with a total of one hundred staff projected by year's end.

The partnership was spearheaded by MAN etc., Inc., a team of four

See **BLACK PRESS** page 10

Research dispels black press stereotypes

CHICAGO, ILL.—The National Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation has released its first extensive national research on black newspapers which proves the viability of black newspapers as an effective marketing tool for advertisers and an important media outlet for African-American consumers.

Funded by The Sears-Roebuck Foundation, "Exploding Stereotypes: Milestones in Black Newspaper Research" explores the stereotypes of black newspapers, identifies their competitive challenges, and provides

practical strategies for black papers to survive in a changing information marketplace.

The Milestones research study, conducted by the Stephenson Research Center at the University of Missouri School of Journalism, shows that black newspaper advertising (42 percent) scored higher than radio (32 percent) and TV (38 percent) advertising in reaching and effectively influencing African-American consumer patronage.

Two-thirds, 68 percent of African-Americans surveyed read the black press, and an overwhelming 90 percent strongly

agreed or agreed that black newspapers provide information not available in the mainstream press.

Almost half of the consumers, 47 percent, read grocery store ads, 35 percent read restaurant ads, 44 percent read ads for department stores, and 43 percent read ads for department stores in the black newspapers.

"This information is critical to reshaping thinking and destroying negative myths about black newspapers. The Milestones study justifies why companies should continue

to spend advertising dollars in black newspapers and use the papers as an effective marketing tool to reach and influence black consumers," said Dr. Frederick H. Black, executive editor of the Milestones in Black Newspaper Research and project director of the NNPA Foundation's Prototype Newspaper Project.

"The Black press has struggled for a long time to help provide an identity for African-Americans. The study shows that African-American readers have very specific

See **BLACK PRESS** page 10

Cox completes professional development program at White House

WASHINGTON, DC—Teresa Duncan Cox, a Plainfield, resident working at the Packaging Handling Storage and Transportation (PHST) Center, at the Naval Weapons Station Earle has recently completed a developmental assignment at the White House through The Women's Executive Leadership (WEL) Program.

Under the direction of The Honorable Alexis M. Herman, assistant to the President, Cox worked in the office of Public Liaison and gained managerial experience in public policy briefings on domestic and foreign policy issues. An exemplary letter was

received praising Cox for her exceptional efforts. She is the first WEL participant in the history of the program to be assigned to work at the White House.

The Women's Executive Leadership (WEL) Program is a win/win program at Naval Weapons Station Earle. For the participant, it provides supervisory and managerial training and development opportunities for high potential federal employees to prepare them for future positions. For the station, it provides a bank of highly motivated and trained future managers.

WEL is designed for non-supervisory women and men or new

supervisors with less than one year of supervisory experience at the mid-supervisory levels. It is tailored to the participant's own developmental needs focusing on the competencies and effective characteristics needed to be a successful supervisor or manager.

Cox's next developmental assignment is at the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Research in Washington, D.C. She will be working on the Tokamak Physics Experiment (TPX), a \$750 million fusion energy project, to gain experience in technical program management experience.



Cox is greeted by President Clinton in the White House.

PEOPLE

West honored for invention



James E. West of Plainfield was named an inventor of the year by the New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame. West was honored for the development of the foil-electric transducer for sound recording and voice communications used in most new telephones manufactured today. He is employed at AT&T Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill, New Jersey. West (l) accepts congratulations from James Blow Jr., center, chair of the New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame, and Harry Roman (r) chair of the Hall of Fame's selection committee during the annual awards dinner held in February. Established in 1987 and operating from New Jersey Institute of Technology, the New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame promotes and fosters creativity, innovation and invention, contributing to economic growth and improving the quality of life in New Jersey.



Beta Alpha Omega Chapter, Newark of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. recently received a proclamation from Newark Mayor Sharpe James in recognition of its African American Heritage Celebration. (l-r) Melody Parker, vice president; Kimberly Feagin, Cultural Heritage Committee; Lemmya D. Clarke, chairman; Gail Gillespie, Publicity Chairman. The chapter also received proclamations from Senator Wynona Lipman and East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper. Photo by Ray Moss



(L-R) Jazz brunch co-chair, Gayle Thigpen-Allen; Honorees, Sherry Gordon, Dr. Beverly Murdock, Lise chairwoman, Claire Davis, and Honoree Paulette Brown Esq.

Links honor women of distinction

NEW BRUNSWICK—The Rahm Valley Chapter of the Links, Inc. will honor five African-American Women of Distinction during a jazz brunch at the Brunswick Hilton, in East Brunswick, on Sunday April 2.

The women being recognized for their outstanding professional achievements, and exceptional contributions to the community are: Paulette Brown, Esq., former judge, currently in

private legal practice; Gabriella Coleman, Esq., president, the Prudential Foundation; Sherry A. Gordon executive director, NJ Administrative and Legislative Council #1 of AFSPM; Lonna Hooks, Secretary of State, New Jersey; and Beverly Y. Murdock, D.D.S., dental practitioner and consultant. Entertainment for the brunch will be provided by Kysia Bostic, a Manhattan-based recording artist singer.

Three sworn into Orange planning board



City News
Metro Newark's #1 African American News Journal



ORANGE—Albert Calloway (c) and Alan Barnhart (r) are sworn into the Orange Planning Board by Mayor Robert Brown (l). Calloway joins the board as a new member while Barnhart is an alternate. 2nd photo: Troy Harrison a new member to the Orange Planning Board looks on as the mayor signs certification papers which makes him an official member of the board.

COPING

WITH DR. CHARLES FAULKNER

My brother has a big problem

Dear Dr. Faulkner:

I am having a whole lot of trouble with my brother. We are from Thailand. I am 20 years old and he is 23. The problem is that my brother is lazy and has no motivation. He smokes three packs of cigarettes a day and he is 50 pounds overweight. Every day I tell him to stop smoking. I get darn angry with him because he just completely ignores me when I tell him to stop smoking. We argue all the time. Smoking is going to kill him, but he won't stop.

I fix his dinner and he won't even help me wash the dishes. It drives me crazy. He puts his dishes in the sink without scraping the food off of them. This just leaves me with a sink full of dirty dishes and garbage. I sometimes scream at him when he does not change his behavior. He is in college, but he never studies and is failing his courses. I think that my brother is destroying his whole life and ruining his health. I get tired of him ignoring me because it gives me headaches and I can't sleep at night.

I have decided that I am going to stop worrying about my brother. I am going to just ignore what he does. When he smokes, I am not going to say a word to him. When he eats too much food, I am not going to tell him to stop. When he puts his dishes in the sink with left-over food on them, I am just going to wash them off and scrap the food off myself. I'm not going to worry myself with his problems and his bad habits. He is a grown man and he is going to have to handle his own problems and live his own life. Right now, he is ruining his life and is ruining my life. I don't know what else to do.

Ms. Y., Silver Spring, MD.

Dear Ms. Y.,

One thing that is obvious from reading your letter is that you are extremely intelligent. You are also compassionate because you truly care for your brother. Here are some additional points:

1) You alone cannot change your brother's behavior. Maybe even he cannot change his own behavior without professional counseling. It seems as if he has a compulsion - an inner drive that he cannot control. Possibly he wants to do better, but simply lacks the inner strength to do so.

2) You might unwittingly be contributing to his compulsion by being so assertive in criticizing him. One of the worst things that one can do to a person who has major problems is to criticize him when he is under the influence of his problem. In other words, if you criticize while that person is stuffing himself with food, he will get nervous and continue to stuff himself. Also, some family members are too close and too personally involved to be able to help a relative. An objective, experienced, caring counselor might be needed.

3) Your brother is not ruining your life. You are ruining your own life by being overly involved in his life. He is a grown man who must take responsibility for his own life. You can advise him, but you must try to avoid becoming angry when he does not do what you ask (tell) him to do. Compulsive behavior is very difficult to control. Ask any long time smoker or compulsive eater.

4) There might very well be something troubling your brother that you do not know about. You can try to calmly and carefully ask him if there is something bothering him that he would like to talk about. Wait until he is relaxing before talking with him. He may reveal some important information. But if he doesn't want to talk with you, do not pressure him.

Because of your past conflicts, your brother may refuse to confide in you. Don't let that throw you. Don't argue. Don't get upset. Don't feel bad. You may simply be too close to him. Possibly a different relative can get through to him. The best way that you can help him is to be understanding and compassionate. Perhaps he will eventually work his way through this. Whatever happens, you must go on with your own life.

Need a mortgage or refinancing on a low to moderate income? The Mighty Hudson can save you thousands of dollars.

Hudson City Savings Bank has a long standing tradition of concern for the people in the communities it serves, including those with low to moderate incomes. This can now work to your advantage if you apply for your mortgage or refinancing at Hudson City Savings Bank.

The Mighty Hudson, New Jersey's largest savings bank, now offers qualified applicants special low rates. With as little as 10% down, you can borrow to a maximum of \$100,000 to purchase or refinance a 1 to 4 family owner oc-

cupied dwelling in one of the counties shown in the listing below. Private mortgage insurance (PMI) is required on loans over 80% of our appraised value.

To make it even easier to gain approval, Hudson City will apply less rigid qualifying standards and lack of an established credit history will not disqualify you—provided, of course, you can prove your credit worthiness and ability to repay the debt.

To apply, phone the Mortgage Origination Department at 201-967-1900 or 609-428-2740. Your new home may be just a phone call away!



TO QUALIFY, APPLICANT'S INCOME CANNOT EXCEED THE FIGURES LISTED BELOW FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE PROPERTY YOU INTEND TO PURCHASE IS LOCATED.

Bergen	\$42,160	Monmouth	\$36,320
Burlington	33,120	Morris	39,520
Camden	33,120	Ocean	36,320
Essex	39,520	Passaic	42,160
Gloucester	33,120	Somerset	43,680
Hudson	28,240	Union	39,520
Middlesex	43,680	Warren	30,880

FROM NEW JERSEY — FOR NEW JERSEY

Hudson City Savings Bank

New Jersey's largest savings bank



Community Calendar

MONTH OF MARCH

NEW YORK—1995 NY Flower Show/Lecture series. For more details call 914-421-3219.

PLAINFIELD—"Patterns of Light" art exhibit at Swain Galleries. For more info call 908-756-1707.

WATCHUNG—Salute to women in the Arts exhibit at the Watchung Arts Center. Call 908-753-0100.

MARCH THRU APRIL 13

PLAINFIELD—Plaintiff residents pre-register to receive free government surplus food from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 2 to 4:30 p.m. evening hours also available on specific days. For more info call 908-753-3519.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

PLAINFIELD—Langston Hughes Lecture Series presents "She Does Not Know Her Beauty" music and dance program at the Plainfield Public Library from 7 to 8 p.m. For more info call 908-757-1111.

EAST ORANGE—"Open Forum" for parents to ask questions and get answers at Clifford J. Scott High School at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 201-266-5682.

EAST BRUNSWICK—"Open Forum" sponsored by the New Jersey School Board Association seeking ways districts can improve education at the Brunswick Hilton Hotel at 7 p.m. For more info call 609-495-7600. Ext. 255.

MARCH 22, 23

NEW BRUNSWICK—US Army's 1995 Junior Science and Humanities Symposium at Rutgers University. For more info call 908-952-7084.

MARCH 22, 29

NEWARK—Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program in the Newark Public Library on Wednesdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. For more info call 212-733-7793.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

NEW YORK—"Treasures of American Women" a gallery talk by Hazel Rodriguez. Esther Morales at The Metropolitan Museum of Art at 3 p.m. For more info call 212-570-3830.

SUMMIT—"Art Forum" lecture series held at NJ Center for Visual Arts. For more info call 908-273-9121.

NEW YORK—"A Closer Look: The Penitent Magistrate" gallery talk at The Metropolitan Museum of Art at 12:30 p.m. For more info call 212-570-3930.

NEW YORK—"18th Century Women: Virtue and Virtuosity" at The Metropolitan Museum of Art at 7 p.m. For more info call 212-570-3830.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

JERSEY CITY—"Crossing Oceans, Crossing Borders" day-long conference at 8 a.m. at Jersey City State College. Call 201-200-3412.

JERSEY CITY—"Open House for the State-of-the-Art Science Center at Hudson County Community College at 1:30 p.m. For more info call 201-714-2244.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

NEWARK—Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. Staffed at the Newark Public Library from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 212-733-7793.

NEW YORK—Jazz for Young People event by Wynton Marsalis with two

performances 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Alice Tully Hall (Lincoln Center). For more info call 212-721-6500.

MARCH 25, 26

EDISON—"Success in Soap Opera and TV Commercials" two-day workshop and seminar from noon to 8 p.m. at Middlesex County College. For more info call 908-906-2556.

NEWARK—"For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf" a play by Elizabeth Harris at Rutgers University. For ticket info and times call 201-372-8898 or 201-416-9640.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

EAST ORANGE—Art exhibit and reception at the East Orange Room between 2 - 4 p.m. For more info call 201-269-5600.

NEW YORK—"Rhythm of the City" music tribute at 2 p.m. at the Museum of the City of New York. For more info call 212-634-1872.

NOW THRU MARCH 26

BROOKLYN—"Dance Theater of Harlem" return to Brooklyn Academy of Music. Call 212-307-4100.

MARCH 27, 28

WAYNE—"For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf" production at William Paterson College. For more info call 201-595-2946.

NOW THRU MARCH 27

PLAINFIELD—Managerial and professional women are invited to attend the "Women in Management" sessions which are from 6 to 8 p.m. For more info call 908-756-3838.

EDITORIAL

Beware of gifts

There are a number of organizations and churches that are becoming active in the housing and economic development areas with banks and state and federal funds backing their efforts. We applaud their efforts and believe that many worthwhile results will be obtained as a result of this relationship.

However, we hope that these groups will not be compromised by their valuable position in the community—leaders of the struggle for civil rights and human dignity in the black community.

We have seen what can happen when powerful interests control an organization like the NAACP. With the recent problems, foundations and corporations steered clear of the NAACP controversy until the smoke cleared.

Once again, we understand that it is necessary to turn to funding from various sources in order to accomplish goals for the community. With that funding, we should make it clear that supporting black churches and organizations along with businesses are not just helping those groups, it is helping the general well-being of this country. Therefore, the giver in this instance, has just as much benefit as the recipient. If that is not the case, maybe the black community needs to look inward for the money necessary to support its projects.

A thriving black community means jobs, homes, good health care, quality schools, and a people with hope. Ultimately, it means prosperity for all.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Still no justice

Dear Editor:

Because Governor Christine Todd Whitman recently signed the State's Affirmative Action Program, which bans minorities and women do business with New Jersey, SAGE cheers. Also, it applauds her appointment of Judge Coleman to the Supreme Court.

These acts somewhat improved the playing field. However, New Jersey employees at autonomous agencies who not only campaigned, but voted for her, have yet to feel the trickle-down effect of these actions. In fact, as repayment, we lost one black in a high level position and others of us are under almost daily attacks. Nothing has been done to remove discriminatory practices by those she appointed.

There is still a Republican stand-off regarding the Millers (not related to each other) by Senator Cardinale. First he is sitting on the appointment of Pamela Miller to Commissioner at the New Jersey Highway Authority. Second, he along with Luis Kosco, Henry P. McNamara and John Scott refuses to endorse Elijah Miller to a Judgeship. This negative behavior does not bode well with those of us who openly supported Mrs. Whitman.

When these and other unresolved issues have declined, SAGE will cheer even louder for the Governor.

—Jerry J. Jackson
SAGE Chairperson

Where does our money go?

The following letter was written by Assemblyman Bob Smith (D-Piscataway). City News does not know if the Governor ever responded to Assemblyman Smith.

Dear Government Whitman:

[A newspaper article] recently reported that you plan to spend more money than originally anticipated to operate your office this year. Not only does this run counter to your pledge of a 20-percent cut in your office spending, but this amount represents a \$200,000 increase over what the previous administration spent during its last full year.

I find this expansion of bureaucracy quite troubling in light of your campaign promise. In this age of "smaller, smarter government," the amount of taxpayer dollars you spend on your own staff sends a powerful message. Your calls for belt tightening at the local government level ring hollow when you spend so much in your own office.

I understand that running a governor's office demands a substantial amount of resources and staff. And perhaps you can even make a case that you require more spending than the previous governor because of your frequent travels.

However, I am sure that a critical look at your office operations would disclose questionable expenditures that could possibly be reduced to real savings for taxpayers.

For instance, the Office of Protocol recently invited New Jersey state Legislators to attend your response to President Clinton's State of the Union address. While I was surprised that you would want Democratic legislators at your partisan event, I was even more astonished to learn that New Jersey had an Office of Protocol.

I understand that Governor Florio's office did not include this extra layer of government. In fact, protocol falls within the purview of the Secretary of State. I respectfully request that your office provide me with an explanation of what the Office of Protocol does, along with specific figures on how much it costs New Jersey taxpayers.

You have repeatedly said that state cabinet officers must justify spending in their agencies or face funding cuts. You have also implemented a program that imposes punitive funding cuts for school districts that "spend too much on administration." In that vein, I believe it is appropriate for you to publicly address concerns about the growth of the governor's office, specifically, the Office of Protocol.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

—Assemblyman Bob Smith
D-Piscataway



by Connie Woodruff

The first city-wide conference marking Women's History Month celebrations in Newark was held in 1993.

The most recent observance was held last week, Friday, March 17 and Saturday, March 18, spearheaded by Councilwoman Mildred Crump and underwritten with a grant sanctioned by her city council colleagues.

The first day of the two-day event was an overwhelming success as an outreach program for young women in the community, and because the sponsors reached out to high school students from local high schools, alternative schools and an assortment of youth agencies working with at-risk students, pregnant and teenage moms.

Older professional adults dealt with a variety of workshops centering on male-female relationships, the new reforms in education, employment and health.

But with internationally famous rapper, Sister Souljah as a luncheon speaker, the rapid attention of the teenage audience expressed the

appreciation of the nearly solid female audience.

Sister Souljah didn't have to "rap" to establish relevancy with the audience. Her young life has been very similar to many young Newarkers: growing up in a single parent home, surviving in a Bronx public housing complex and fighting to take advantage of educational opportunities that took her to Cornell University, Rutgers and the University of Salamanca in Spain on scholarships.

She advised her enthusiastic audience to always be in control of their lives and never permit others (especially males) to make decisions for them.

"I came from a disadvantaged family, but I learned early if I studied, set goals it would pay off. I took care of business and made the right decisions."

Touching on the subject of unwed motherhood, she said, "I'm a mother of a 20-month old baby. I tell you babies need mothers and fathers. That is the best of all circumstances in responsible parenthood."

"Having a baby is a beautiful experience," she said, "but it is a

painful experience no woman should be willing to endure alone. Make sure the male in your life is a real man and not someone willing to lead you into a life of drugs and crime. Too many Latino and African-American women are in jail because they let their boyfriends order them to illegal things."

Her candid remarks were interrupted many times by spontaneous applause and brought tears to the eyes of Councilwoman Crump and Dr. LaRanches Rodgers-Rose, founder and president of the International Black Women's Congress who assisted her in coordinating the conference.

Later Crump said she and her chief of staff, Kim Thompson-Gaddy, would evaluate the conference and announce plans to follow up on the momentum generated by the meet.

Among other events focusing on Newark's women was Mayor Sharpe James' special luncheon for community seniors on Friday and the annual event sponsored by the Newark Committee on Aging under the coordination of Sister Alice Jones, the new head of the Newark

Citizen Council.

Sister Jones recently replaced veteran senior advocate, Kitty Taylor as director of city-wide senior activities. Jones, a native Newarker is known nationally as a guitarist-singer of gospel music and was a long-time volunteer in senior services throughout the city.

Essex County Freeholder Joseph Palavecchio is mourning the death of his friend, Tino, an assistant parks superintendent for the Essex County Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs for 13 years.

Tino was a lifetime East Ward resident before moving to suburban Essex-Morris county a few years ago. He was a familiar figure in the Jefferson St. section of the Ironbound and an influential mover and shaker in the "Down Neck" Democratic Party who was a long hand in the development of local political leaders like the late Louis Turco, Newark councilman Hank Martinez and his Freeholder son, Joe Palavecchio.

I met Tino more than 30 years ago. See CONNIEpage 10

THE PASTOR'S WORD:

by Rev. Reginald Jackson

The Black Minister's Council of New Jersey at its reorganization meeting that week blasted the new congress for what it called an agenda "that divides Americans by race, class and gender," and called upon the governor and the state's congressional delegation to tell New Jersey residents how proposed spending cuts will impact the state.

This Congress is mean-spirited, insensitive and has no regard at all for the most of these in our nation. They have duped the nation into believing that our problems are because of minorities and the poor, and have proposed to cut spending targeted for the poor and most vulnerable in our society.

Rev. Caleb Oates, newly elected president and pastor of Bethany Baptist Church, in Farmingdale, N.J. said it well when he commented, "We are very troubled, not only by the action of congress, but by our state's delegation in supporting it. They have gone along with this without being up front with New Jerseyans about how it will affect them."

Proposed spending cuts would cost New Jersey billions of dollars, which means either increased taxes or eliminating programs, the loss

of 35,000 summer jobs, no job training, little public housing, cuts in welfare and Medicaid and education. Students with school loans would have to repay them prior to graduation.

Another of my colleagues, Rev. Edward Dorn, southern area Political Action chairman stated, "The citizens of New Jersey are in for a shock when they realize how these cuts will affect them. We believe there should be cuts across the board, but you have Congress cutting the smallest entitlement in the budget, welfare and food stamps, which are [only] 1 percent of the budget and not touching wasteful spending in other areas."

"It is so easy to cut programs and cut money for poor people because they have no voice or lobbyist to speak for them," Oates stated. "We, the clergy have to champion their cause and we will."

The council plans to pressure the governor and members of the congressional delegation with large numbers of minorities and poor in their districts. They specifically noted congressmen Andrews, Franks, Smith and Martin.

"One of the things made very clear in our reorganization meeting is that the ministers must be more vocal and aggressive than we have been. We will be a force," Oates said. The Executive Committee of the Council will choose an execu-

tive director at its May meeting. Dr. Edward Vermer is the current executive director.

The clergy group also expressed its concern about black grants to the states. "We have to seriously question whether this is a good move," said Dorn. We are troubled because the governor has already taken 50 million dollars to be used for the poor, to balance the budget. What happens next, do you take black grants for welfare and food stamps to balance the budget?" he asked.

We are also gearing up and prepared to fight for affirmative action. The effort to terminate affirmative action is purely racism. To act as if there is no longer discrimination is a joke. How can affirmative action be reverse discrimination against white males.

When you add women and minorities together, white males are the minority and they have 80 percent of the jobs. Where is the reverse discrimination, where?"

The clergy council will ask to join in coalition with other groups to lobby the governor and Congress to avoid what we believe are unfair cuts aimed at minorities, the poor and women.

Look at it, they would starve women and children to fund star wars. But we don't live in peace, we live on earth.

Whitman's budget — the credit crunch

by Senator Bernard F. Kenny, Jr.

New Jersey's Legislators, as a part of the budget process, will spend the upcoming months evaluating Governor Whitman's FY 96 budget proposal. While there will be legitimate debate concerning a range of issues, the main concern will be that the budget is unquestionably built upon certain premises that promise trouble for the State's current and future taxpayers.

In direct conflict with the popular misconception that Ms. Whitman has been able to cut the income tax by creating smaller, smarter government, this budget will spend a billion dollars more than the last Florio budget. Even more troubling is that current spending is being financed through a combination of borrowing, shifting, and refinancing which will generate a formidable long term debt and higher property taxes for New Jerseyans.

As the Governor's national prospects go up—along with the amount of credit used to balance New Jersey's budget—the future for our children becomes more and more doubtful. This borrow and spend policy that is the vehicle which Governor Whitman hopes will carry her to national prominence will be the same vehicle that drives New Jersey taxes up, as the bill comes due in the future.

Without question, the borrowing binge began in 1992 when Governor Florio, Assembly Speaker Haytaian, and Senate President DiFrancesco initiated and promoted the pension revaluation, the refinancing of state debt, and the raid on the Transportation Trust Fund. It has been Governor Whitman, however, in carrying out her campaign pledge to cut the state income tax, who has

embraced borrowing, in unprecedented amounts, from the pension fund, the Transportation Trust Fund—and from the future, as a way to postpone current obligations.

Though the proposed \$11 billion budget is already \$1 billion higher than New Jersey's contributions to the system, the real spending, reflected in the budget language is higher, still. While the Governor talks about leading New Jersey's revolution and takes credit for budget reductions, she has not reinvented a leaner government, but has actually increased state spending and government growth.

It is obvious that the options available to balance the state budget, as the constitution requires, are limited, indeed. The Whitman Administration has taken a fiscally risky route by under funding the state's pension system by nearly \$2.5 billion over the last two years. The ill effects of that gambit are already apparent. A recent State of Wisconsin study of eighty five public pension systems found that New Jersey's contributions to the system, as a percent of total payroll—a measure of fiscal stability—have slipped to the bottom of the list. Only New York, which made no pension contributions last year, and was subsequently sued, ranks lower. The Governor's perpetual search for revenue to support her budget policies and tax cuts has placed our once healthy system in jeopardy. In addition, the Administration has continued the raid of the Transportation Trust Fund and plans to refinance the Fund's current debt, at a higher rate, at an estimated \$1.5 billion. The annual cost to taxpayers of the \$735 million.

From the outset, local government officials have been troubled

by the probability that, with a decrease in the income tax and the enhanced by excessive borrowing which alleviates the immediate distress but imposes a heavy financial obligation on our children. The end results of these practices, should they continue, will be increased debt, the under funding of accruing obligations, and rising property taxes. But it is not too late for the Governor and the Legislature to change course and avoid these consequences. The time is now, as we evaluate the budget, to rethink our policies and planning so that our priority becomes the protection of the interests and the future of New Jersey's taxpayers, as it should be.

Clearly, Governor Whitman has balanced her budget on faulty

fiscal practices that are, at best, imprudent. Revenue has been enhanced by excessive borrowing which alleviates the immediate distress but imposes a heavy financial obligation on our children. The end results of these practices, should they continue, will be increased debt, the under funding of accruing obligations, and rising property taxes. But it is not too late for the Governor and the Legislature to change course and avoid these consequences. The time is now, as we evaluate the budget, to rethink our policies and planning so that our priority becomes the protection of the interests and the future of New Jersey's taxpayers, as it should be.

CITY NEWS

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City News is published weekly by City News Publishing Company, P.O. Box 1774, 144 North Ave., Plainfield, N.J. 07061. Telephone (908) 754-3400 FAX (908) 753-1038. The publisher reserves the right to delete objectionable words or phrases and to reject any advertising. This publication, in whole or parts thereof, may not be reproduced in any form whatsoever without the expressed written permission of the Publisher. City News assumes no responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts, art or photographs. Material submitted can be returned without a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Copyright 1995 City News Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

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YOUTH BEAT

Newark girls to attend women's career day at NJIT

KIDS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

PLAINFIELD—Charades at Plainfield Public Library at 3:30 p.m. For more info call 908-757-1111.

WESTFIELD—Camp Information Night for girls in grades 2-12 at Washington at 21st Grove St. East at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 908-226-3236.

MARCH 23, 30

PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Public Library will show films at 3:30 p.m. For more info call 908-757-1111.

MARCH 23 THRU APRIL 30

NEW YORK—Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus will appear at the Wachung Arts Center at 8 p.m. and matinees at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. For more info call 908-753-0190.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

WESTFIELD—Ceramic Painting workshop for youth ages 7 to 12 at the Union County 4-H office from 7:30 to 9 p.m. For more info call 908-654-9854.

MARCH 24, 31

PLAINFIELD—Little People Storytime at the Plainfield Public Library for youth 5 and under at 11 a.m. For more info call 908-757-1111.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

SUMMIT—Comic Book Workshop for children ages 9 to 12 with comic artist Rich Heiden at 10 a.m. at The Center for Visual Arts. For more info call 908-273-9121.

JERSEY CITY—Math Strategies for Grade 5-8 workshop Saturdays at Jersey City State College. Call 201-200-3080.

NEWARK—Hooray for Children program: The Great Circus Mystery will be at Centennial Hall at 2 p.m. For more info call 201-733-6642.

JERSEY CITY—Saturday Art Workshop I: Fantasy Furniture at Jersey City State College from 9 to 11 a.m. Call 201-200-3080.

MARCH 25, AND 26

SOUTH AMBOY—Peter Pan and Captain Hook play will be performed at Club Bunk at 2 p.m. Call 908-727-3900.

NOW THRU MARCH 26

NEWARK—Newark Teen Arts Festival at the Newark Museum. For more info call 201-268-5188.

NJIT offers pre-college summer programs

NEWARK—Want to know more about marine life on the Jersey shore? Interested in how nuclear energy works? Want to learn how to program a computer? These are just a few of the subjects students can explore this summer through the Center for Pre-College Programs at New Jersey Institute of Technology.

The Center offers a variety of summer educational programs for elementary and secondary school students in science, math, engineering, chem-

istry, computer science and basic academic skills training. Classes are held Monday through Friday and range from three to six weeks.

Monday, April 3, 1995 is the deadline for all summer program applications. Most programs are free except for a \$5 application fee. However some programs have a tuition. For application or more information call 201-596-3679.

work force. The event is sponsored by the North Jersey Association of Female Executives (NJAFE), NJIT's Talent Search Program and the Newark Board of Education.

The address will be delivered by Gail Thompson, an architect and vice president of design and construction for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center Corporation.

Twenty-one female professionals, ranging from a dentist and a detective to a jewelry designer and bank treasurer, have volunteered to head workshops and share their experiences with the girls.

Women's Career Day was created in an effort to encourage young females to develop themselves professionally and to shed light on some issues pertaining to women in

the work force. The event is sponsored by the North Jersey Association of Female Executives (NJAFE), NJIT's Talent Search Program and the Newark Board of Education.

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Plainfield schools and Burger King promote reading

with an adult.

As part of the campaign Burger King displays the logo for the Q.U.E.S.T. program in the restaurant and carries a calendar, similar to those in the schools, that displays the number of reading hours and minutes that have been accumulated.

The first 100 children who have read for the month will receive books from Burger King.

Q.U.E.S.T. is a voluntary program that encourages students to read at home for at least 15 minutes every day for a month, preferably

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Poetry contest open to all

OWINGS MILLS, MD.—The National Library of Poetry has announced that \$24,000 in prizes will be awarded this year to over 250 poets in the North American Open Poetry Contest. The deadline for the contest is March 31, 1995.

The contest is open to everyone and entry is FREE.

Every poem entered has a chance to be published in a deluxe, hardbound anthology.

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Teen arts festival highlights youth

CRANFORD—The annual Union County Teen Arts Festival scheduled for March 29 and 30, at the Cranford Campus of Union County College, is expected to showcase the works of students from over fifty public and private schools.

Students will participate in performances, master classes, interactive workshops and critiquing seminars led by professional artists in all

disciplines—visual arts, music, theatre, dance and creative writing.

All performances are open to the public. Assistive services are available on request.

For additional information please call Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs at 908-558-2550 TDD relay service users should call 1-800-852-7899.

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Artwork by Demell Bradley



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Religious Calendar

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

DUNELLEN—Twelfth Annual Spring Arts and Crafts Fair at Dunellen United Methodist Church from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info call 908-777-7328.

SCOTCH PLAINS—A cappella concert, featuring the group Glad, will be at the Everglades Church at 7 p.m. For more info call 908-322-0320.

WAYNE—Wayne Presbyterian Church hosts a social, discussion and games at 8 p.m. For more info call 201-681-0333.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

PLAINFIELD—The Candles of Lent service with music and readings of the Gospel at Grace Episcopal Church at 8 p.m. For more info call 908-757-8905.

Youth

(Continued from page 1)

mer professional athletes and other concerned men from a variety of professions who sponsor ongoing youth mentoring and community outreach programs and educational forums with the goal of helping inner-city youth become productive members of mainstream America.

MAN provides George Washington Carver Service with organizational leadership and oversees the day-to-day operations, along with contributing time and encouragement for mentorship programs to seek to develop the employees' long-term goals. Chemical Bank New Jersey has agreed to provide \$150,000 in working capital.

Hunter Douglas installed the necessary equipment to manufacture the window treatments and provides ongoing technical assistance as well as guaranteeing a minimum production schedule of 100 blinds daily, scheduled to grow to 200 blinds within six months.

"Now more than ever, we need to support our young people with more than rhetoric. This company will help ensure that they gain the necessary skills to become productive members of the community," said Ron Johnson, a former NFL Giants player and co-founder of MAN.

Black cops

(Continued from page 1)

organizations whose representatives were present to state just that.

Ron Hampton executive director of the National Black Police Association stated, "my organization is expressing solidarity for BCAP members and officer Davis... these cowardice acts always seem to appear when African-American police officers speak out against injustices within the criminal justice system."

Civilians who were grateful to BCAP also showed their support and condemned the justice system. Paterson resident Pedro Pagan representing a youth organization called "We the Youth" voiced support for Davis and his fellow officers.

"When we started our organization we asked De Lacy to stand by us and he did it without a thought when everyone else had turned their backs on us."

Pagan noted that police harassment in Paterson is very common and there's nothing to occupy time.

"Police harass youth because they claim we hang out on the corners, well give us something to do Paterson. Give us something to do."

According to Dr. Lenora Fulani, of New Alliance the political process needs to be restructured to deal with Law officers committing crimes, and then paying the penalty for those crimes.

"When a police officer commits a crime he/she should be dealt with appropriately. The political process needs to be restructured."

Officer Robert Bradwell of the Newark police department voiced his contempt for the discrimination that he says he and other officers have faced.

As part of his protest he displayed his badge with a strip of black tape covering half of the badge. "This is in protest against the attacks geared toward BCAP and its members."

Bradwell stated that they are not allowed to speak against anything that goes on in the department. "As part of the code of honor

freedom of speech is not tolerated. Checks are run to see who are members of BCAP and they are subjected to constant harassment."

He reported that he was suspended for six months for what officials claimed to be "misconduct" on his part for marching with Dr. Leonard Jeffries at Rutgers University in 1994.

Officer Davis stated that as part of the intimidation process against BCAP members, dossiers are being kept on members, they were suspended without pay and assigned to the worst beats for minor incidents. He also said that as the press conference was being held, people were taking photos of members to take back to police officials.

Davis stated that BCAP was not a black versus white cop thing. They (BCAP) were there to their jobs because police brutality is alive and well and someone has to defend the community.

"I have seen white cops who treated black people better than some black cops, this is not about color. My police chief is black and he reassigned me for what he claimed is my own safety, and put me in a situation where I have received physical threats when a supervisor was present in the room and nothing has been done about it."

Davis and other members of BCAP said they will not stand for threats against them and are prepared to deal with anyone who continues to threaten them or the existence of their organization.

I do not give a damn about this badge because it does not make a man," said Davis. My mother did not give birth to something blue; she did not raise a badge, she raised a man and I will defend what I believe is right."

Organizations showing support for BCAP were the Second Street Youth Center (SSYC) and Founder of Head Start Across America Foundation, which is composed of Head Start parents, sights SSYC as her motivation.

Head Start reminded me that this is my neighborhood and that it

committed exclusively to serving for children.

The hospital with the state's only pediatric cardiac intensive care unit. And the state's most comprehensive Children's Heart Center.

The only hospital where, along with Dr. Marks, you'll find about 80 pediatric specialists and subspecialists — who are often called on to advise doctors at other hospitals.

Like the hospital where 6-month-old Felix's mother, Ruth Cruz, first took him. "When my baby was transferred to Children's Hospital, I felt much better," she says. "We really like Dr. Marks."

"YOU'RE DEALING WITH A TINY ORGAN IN A TINY BODY. THAT'S WHAT MAKES PEDIATRIC CARDIAC CATHETERIZATION SUCH AN ENORMOUS CHALLENGE."

LYOYD A. MARKS, MD
CHIEF, PEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGY

For more than a century, we've been treating children as children, not as small adults. Which is perhaps the biggest reason why it's important for kids to go to **The Children's Hospital.**

"The instruments I use to perform cardiac catheterizations on infants, for example, are tinier than the ones for adults. The anesthesia has to be milder. The whole operation is more delicate and requires highly specialized care — the kind that exists only at a true children's hospital."

The Children's Hospital of New Jersey. The only hospital in New Jersey where interventional cardiac catheterization eliminates the need for surgery and long hospital stays.

Dr. Lloyd Marks specializes in these procedures. And he's supported by New Jersey's one and only hospital



UNITED HOSPITALS MEDICAL CENTER
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF NEW JERSEY
NEWARK, NJ • 201-268-8000

United Hospitals join international campaign on children's health

NEWARK—During Children's and Hospitals Week, March 16-25, United Hospitals is taking part in the international campaign on children's health with activities and programs for patients, families and hospital staff.

Activities and dates are:
■ **Wednesday, March 22**
Caregiver Bingo: family members who take care of a child will have the opportunity to visit the playroom.

The Newark Junior Museum will present a children's dental science topic.

■ **Thursday, March 23**
An afternoon at the movies: Children will gather to watch a new release with all the movie excitement. Pet therapy: a special dog friend will pay a visit to the hospital.

■ **Friday, March 24**
Examine your doctor: The tables are turned and children will get to examine their doctors.

SSYC fights

(Continued from page 1)

social, transportation and nutritional needs for children," said Taylor.

According to Taylor, there are only 1,100 slots open for child care for children in Plainfield, while there are 6,000 children between the ages of three and six who are eligible for child care. Taylor says cuts like this don't just affect the poor.

"There's this focus on reducing the program thinking you will cut out services to the poor. If Head Start is reduced, then these vendors that we purchase over \$600,000 worth of services are reduced because we represent their margin of profit," said Taylor.

"We want to develop a prevention strategy to not just be reactive but to be proactive," he added.

One of those ways Head Start programs are planning to take action is through a National Head Start and Head Start Across America Rally on Washington on April 20.

Monica Parrish-Lyles, former executive director of the Second Street Youth Center (SSYC) and Founder of Head Start Across America Foundation, which is composed of Head Start parents, sights SSYC as her motivation.

Head Start reminded me that this is my neighborhood and that it

was my civic duty as a parent, for my children, to stand behind and fight for them," says Parrish-Lyles.

SSYC Board Chair Brenda Gilbert says SSYC and other child care centers are now competing with many private child care centers who have lost funding and are now seeking government funding.

"It's evident that some folks will be left out of the process... The non profit agencies are already getting less money because our field has now been flooded by those private organizations whose funding has been cut," says Gilbert.

SSYC is in the process of raising funds to build a Family Life Center, which will allow them to 1)

bring the child to four locations under one roof and 2) address the needs of other community members.

"We are not able to expand with our teenage group and that is something we are very concerned about, as a population that has been forgotten... most importantly the young black male. We'd also like to open other programs for them. We are committed to training parents to make them employable... We want to be self-sufficient as much as possible," says Gilbert.

National Social Chemical Foundation presented SSYC with a \$5,000 check to help assist in the building of its Family Life Center.

Monuments

(Continued from page 1)

According to Hamm the monument will be dedicated not only to those who perished and suffered during slavery, but to those who fought for freedom.

"It will be a tribute to those who resisted like Joseph Cinque and Madison Washington who liberated ships at sea, like Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth who helped many escape, like Frederick Douglass and David Walker who fought for abolition, and those like Nat Turner and Denmark Vesey who organized slave revolts."

A special committee has been appointed by Newark City Council President Donald Bradley to explore possible ways in which the Council could assist the effort to construct the monument. The committee is chaired by Councilwoman Mildred Crump and includes Councilman George Branch and Councilman Donald Tucker as members.

The next major step to be taken will be contracting an artist to do the professional design of the monument. A search has been conducted and several African-American artists have expressed interest in

doing the work. Others who could not do so because of previous commitments and works-in-progress have expressed a desire to be advisors to the project.

The construction of the monument will be a major effort that will take several years. Because of the materials, labor, number of figures and dimensions involved the cost will be considerable. The estimated cost at this time is a about \$500,000.

Thus far, we have received endorsements from community groups, religious leaders, historians and academicians, and activists. Today, as we begin our 1995 fundraising drive we are making a special appeal to the African-American community, particularly its business and professional people. We need your support. This project will not be released without it," said Hamm.

Donations should be sent to the Memorial to the Ancestors Project, Inc. Post Office Box 20266, Newark, New Jersey 07101-6266. For additional information on the project please call MAP at 201-641-7711.

Urban mayors

(Continued from page 1)

binding arbitration, the civil service system, solid waste disposal and payments in lieu of taxes.

"The initiative that stresses my primary concern for the people of East Orange is property tax relief," said mayor cooper. "The bottom line of the pact will be property tax control and ultimately reduction."

The mayors all agreed that cities need assistance from Trenton to help them fund ways to reduce the burden of property taxes and develop alternative sources of revenue for local government.

The Pact calls for the additional items in the area of property tax reduction:

- Reduce state spending and unnecessary state government roles
- Allocate new fiscal resources to the cities
- If the states mandates, then the state must pay
- Fundamental education reform
- Binding arbitration reform
- Reform the civil service system
- Deregulate solid waste disposal
- Increase taxpayer relief through payments in lieu of taxes

Health Calendar

ATTENTION—Parents Anonymous group meetings (for those with parenting problems) at various sites in Essex County. For more info call 800-843-5437.

TUESDAYS, NOW THRU APRIL 11

SCOTCH PLAINS—Six seminars, "Celebrating Creativity with Older Adults, Able and Disabled" will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. For more info call 908-709-7600.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

CRANFORD—One-day alcohol and drug conference "Facing Reality" at The Coachman from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info call 908-233-8810.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

JERSEY CITY—"Infection Control and Barrier Precautions" course for licensed health care professionals at Jersey City State College from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more info call 201-200-3157.

SOMERSET—New Jersey Committee for Life Conversion 95 presents "Celebration Of Life" luncheon banquet from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at the Somerset Marriott. For more info call 908-753-5311.

Health Calendar

MONDAY, MARCH 27

EDISON—"Female Urinary Incontinence" health forum at JFK Medical Center at 8 p.m. For more info call 908-321-7535.

MARCH 27, 28

CRANFORD—Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Conference at Union County College from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more info call 908-233-8810.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29

EDISON—"Skin Cancer Screening" health forum at JFK Medical Center from 8 to 8 p.m. For more info call 908-321-7535.

ELIZABETH—Low-cost cancer screenings for women over 40 at the Planned Parenthood from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. YOU MUST HAVE A PREVIOUS PAP. For more info call 908-351-5384.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30

NEWARK—Discuss the role of antioxidants in the prevention of chronic disease at The J. James Smith, M.D., Lectureship at 8 a.m. in the Medical Science Building at UMDNJ. For more info contact Dr. John Bogen at 201-982-5432.

ARTZ WEDNESDAY

BILLBOARD

WEDNESDAYS

NEW YORK—Amateur Night at the Apollo at 7:30 p.m., featuring "Step Up To The Mic" audience participation, special guest hosts and ticket giveaways. For more info call 212-684-0372.

MARCH 21 - 23

NEW YORK—Manny's Car Wash 5th Anniversary celebration featuring Johnny Allen. For more info call 212-369-BLUES.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

WESTBURY—Russ Freeman and The Rippingtons and the Yellowjackets (Jazz) at Westbury Music Fair at 8 p.m. For more info call 516-333-9800.

NEWARK—David Robinson and The All-Stars at the Robert Treat Hotel. For more info call 201-622-1000.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

NEW YORK—Opera (opera) will be performed at the St. Peter's Church at 8 p.m. Call 212-308-6728.

MARCH 24, 25

WESTBURY—Julio Iglesias returns to Westbury Music Fair at 8 p.m. For more info call 516-333-9800.

MONDAY, MARCH 27

NEW YORK—Dramatic reading of The Wedding by Dorothy West will be performed at the Manhattan Theatre Club at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 212-945-5848.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

SOUTH BELMAR—Classic Jazz featuring Sammy Davis and Midnite Slim at Jason's at 8, 10:30 and 12 p.m. For more info call 908-681-1416.

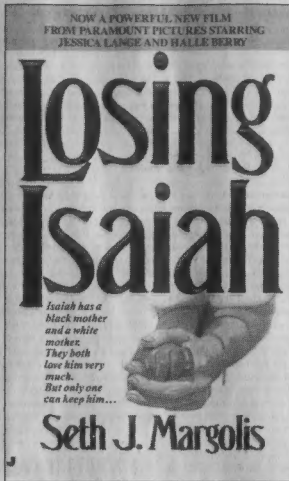
SOMERVILLE—Central Jersey Symphony Orchestra "Virtuoso Classics" concert at Raritan Valley Community College at 8 p.m. For more info call 908-725-3420.

SHORT HILLS—"Swing Into Spring" benefit concert by The Westfield Symphony Orchestra at 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. at the Hilton. MUST HAVE RESERVATION. Call 908-232-9400.

APRIL 1 - 7

NEW BRUNSWICK—Ork! opens at the George Street Playhouse. For times and more info call 908-246-7717.

Losing Isaiah



NEW YORK, NY—Based on the novel *Losing Isaiah* comes a new major motion picture from Paramount. Jessica Lange plays Margaret Lewin, the wife of a wealthy graphic designer. She and her husband, Charles, adopted a black baby, Isaiah.

Isaiah is given everything he has ever wanted and the Lewins come to love him as much as their own daughter Hannah. Selma,

Isaiah's biological mother (played by Halle Berry), has started getting her life together after admitting she was a drug addict and quitting. Now, Selma wants Isaiah back...Does she stand a chance against the wealthy white Lewins, or will she lose Isaiah again?

Losing Isaiah is directed by Stephen Gyllenhaal and is based on the novel by Seth J. Margolis.

Black Bridal Fair coming to Somerset

Touch of Elegance Black Bridal Fair will host its third Black Bridal Fair at the Radisson Hotel in Somerset. Described as the largest bridal fair held in New Jersey, the fair will begin at 12 noon and run until 7 p.m.

The fair is designed to introduce and promote the primary use of minority businesses in the wedding industry. A large number of minority vendors will be on hand to display products and services.

Events will include a professional fashion show scheduled for 3:00 p.m.; featuring traditional and Afro-Centric gowns and designs by some of the top Black designers. Designers scheduled to be in attendance are: Harold Clarke, Bryan Osburn, Leslie Coombs, Therez Fleetwood, and many others. Many of the gowns to be modeled have appeared in *Essence Magazine*.

Black Elegance, Wedding Dresses and on television.

This bridal fair has something for everyone, apparel for mothers of the bride and groom, full figures, and petite. Well known cake designer Charmaine Jones, of "Isn't that Special Outrageous Cakes" will once again display her cake designs as seen in *Essence Magazine*.

Over \$3,000 in door prizes and gifts will be given away at the fair. Grand Prize drawing will be a honeymoon trip. For vendor and ticket information call: 1-800-413-4853.

This bridal fair is far to big to miss. The wedding industry is a \$35 billion a year industry with

Blacks spending in excess of \$1.6 billion annually on wedding related items.



Kirk Whalum at Club Bene



SOUTH AMBOY—Sax Man supreme, Kirk Whalum, will be appearing in concert at the Club Bene dinner Theater. Whalum will perform here show at 9 p.m. with an optional dinner being served at 7 p.m.

Whalum is currently touring in support of his latest CD on Columbia label entitled *Catcha*. For additional information call 908-727-3000.

Arts Council of the Essex Area presents

ALVIN AILEY

REPERTORY ENSEMBLE

SYLVIA WATERS, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

"Breath-taking in its invention!"
—New York Times

One Night Only!
Saturday, April 22 • 8 pm

Montclair High School
Park & Chestnut Streets, Montclair

Tickets: \$30, \$25, \$20
\$50 (with post-performance reception)

Call 201-744-1717

Arts Council of the Essex Area is funded in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State

Contestants sought for the 1995 Mrs. New Jersey America pageant

The New Jersey State branch for the Mrs. America Pageant is searching for contestants to participate and represent their areas for the title of "Mrs. New Jersey America 1995."

Candidates must be at least 18 years of age, currently married, a U.S. Citizen, (or possess a Green Card) and a resident of New Jersey

for at least six (6) months.

Each prospective candidate must submit to the pageant headquarters a current snapshot, and a biography of herself. The candidate must then participate in a telephone interview with a member of the Pageant Screening Committee.

The following towns are currently in need of representatives:

Newark, Plainfield, Morristown, East Orange, Hackensack, Teaneck, Irvington, Morristown, Jersey City, Paterson, and Englewood. For more information and to receive the official pageant application, please write to the Mrs. New Jersey America Pageant, P.O. Box 23, Jackson N.J. 08527-0023 or call 908-928-9050.

ACADEMY AWARDS QUIZ: Judge for yourself. Select your own winners of the Academy Awards and watch to see how accurate you are on Monday, March 27.

1994 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS

YOUR OWN HONORARIES SELECTION

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BUSINESS

Business Calendar

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22
HACKENSACK—Spring Business Expo '95 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Hackensack Price Club. For more info call 201-487-9192.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23
NEWARK—Regional Business Partnership's International Business Over Breakfast: Forging Trade Links in Israel, at the Newark Club. For more info call Eric Viciopio at 201-242-6237, ext. 223.

SUMMIT—How to Give and How to Get: women management course at the WYCA from 8 to 8 p.m. For more info call Janet Korba at 201-755-1808.

NEW PROVIDENCE—Free CD: From morning and afternoon workshop at Reed Reference Publishing. Call 1-800-521-8110, Ext. 3387, for more details.

MARCH 23, 30
PRINCETON—Communications Bell workshop at the Food City Center, Princeton Forrestal from 8 to 8 p.m. For more info call 908-417-0690.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25
NEW YORK—Stress/Pressure Management workshop, being offered at NYU School of Continuing Education from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call 212-998-7080.

BUSINESS EXCHANGE

Who is suppose to honor black excellence?

by William Reed

Most African-American sports fans would tell you that Steve McNair was the best offensive player of the 1994 football season. Had these pundits been right, McNair would have been the first player from an all-black school to win the Heisman Trophy. As the polling turned out "Air" McNair finished third in the race for the Heisman. But, luckily some African Americans who believe in "Doing for self" have their own awards for black gridiron stars and they were the ones to step forward to honor the quarterback from Alcorn State with his just due.

Blacks who are devotees to CBS, NBC, ABC and ESPN may not have noticed it on their sets, but recently the American Urban Radio Network held its 21st Annual SBN Sports Network Black College All-American Awards in Atlanta to recognize significant athletic and academic accomplishments among the nation's 117 historically black institutions.

SBN Sports Network, a division of American Urban Radio Networks, was the actual host of the All-American Banquet, which honored the 24 top black college football players as selected by journalists covering black football during the season, and "Guess what?" McNair received the Offensive Player of the Year award.

College football is a billion dollar a year business, which has such promotions as the Heisman Trophy to bolster its image and keep as much attention on the sport as possible. The SBN Sports Black College All-American Weekend in Atlanta is the only event of its kind that celebrates and focuses the attention of Black Americans on the accomplishments of black college athletes from the 117 historically black colleges and universities in the nation. According to Jerry Lopes, president of American Urban Networks, after two decades of supporting black colleges, the SBN Sports Black College All-American Awards have provided

over a million dollars of support to black colleges and universities. Lopes says that SBN Sports Network provides the most comprehensive coverage of black college football each week during the season to over five million listeners. American Urban Radio Network is the only national African American-owned radio network in the U.S.

The star-studded event in Atlanta was definitely a Black American celebration. It brought together civic leaders, professional athletes, educational administrators and corporate executives. Valerie Weaver, an African-American executive from Chevrolet Motor Division of General Motors, was one of the sponsors of the event. "We have been supporting the Black College All-American Weekend for over eight years," said Weaver, who is Chevy's assistant manager of Passenger Car Marketing. She reports that the domestic car company intends to continue its sponsorship of the event and feels that this will help Chevrolet sell more of its cars and trucks to African Americans.

"We have been a sponsor of

events such as this for many years, but we now want the African American community to know, and see, our concern and broad interest with increasing opportunities for its young people so that they will be interested in helping us increase our opportunities to sell them one of our fine products." Weaver told a gathering of black journalists in a private meeting to discuss the results of Chevrolet's focus groups of African Americans before the banquet.

Other guests at the football celebration included former Super Bowl MVP Doug Williams of Grambling and legendary Grambling coach Eddie Robinson.

"Everybody seems excited about my play, and I'm excited about my play, and I'm excited about the attention," said McNair, who gained 16,823 career yards and threw 44 touchdowns passes in 1994. McNair could be the first quarterback selected when the National Football League (NFL) draft begins on April 22. He is expected to be able to command as much as \$20 million for signing into the pro league. McNair's outstanding career brought much attention to black college football this

past year. Although the white community that controls the Heisman did not see fit to give him their highest honor, McNair was the subject of a Sports Illustrated cover story and the New York Times did a series of articles on him throughout the season. Thanks to McNair, who holds every Alcorn total defense and passing record except one, Alcorn State led its division in attendance averaging 26,203 fans a game.

It may be a few years yet before an African-American athlete from a black school walks away with the white man's highest football award, and those blacks who yearn so much for attention and acceptance from whites will surely be disappointed. But, with the self-support that black schools, broadcasting and newspapers are giving their own, coupled with the marketing initiatives of corporate leaders, such as Chevrolet, we may be able to give ourselves enough "Go team" inspiration and financial support to keep honoring our own athletes and institutions in the highest manner.

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James points to \$240 Million in new construction in city

NEWARK—Mayor Sharpe James has announced that the city witnessed a 300 percent increase in development in 1994 over the previous year, reflecting \$240 million in both residential and non-residential construction.

The growth in construction was noted in a report issued by the Newark Engineering Department Uniform Construction Code Office, which lists the number of permits issued by the agency, as well as the fees collected by the office over a six year period from 1988 to 1994.

According to the Municipal

Monthly Activity Report, Newark collected \$728,952 in construction fees in 1994 compared to \$497,221 in 1993. However, the major growth period was in 1990 when close to \$1 million in fees was collected.

The mayor noted that the more current figures "show a rebound in development" similar to what occurred in Newark in 1990 when almost \$750,000 in permits fees were raised.

"The number of permits issued in 1994 supports a general strengthening in the nationwide economy which showed new growth in hous-

ing and general construction starts last year," the Mayor stated.

"Newark's ongoing building boom is strongly reflected by the enormous growth in the number of permits issued by the Newark Uniform Construction Code Office for construction, electrical and plumbing work," said James. "This, among other things, is definite proof of the revitalization that is going on in the City."

"The fees charged for construction permits are used to offset the cost of building, plumbing and electrical inspections," James added.

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